

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

HOUSE CONCURRENT

RESOLUTION HCR1061:

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AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution expressing legislative support for the establishment of a Center for Health Care Workforce Resources; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Nursing Workforce Task Force was created by the 2nd Session of the 48th Oklahoma Legislature in 2002 to study the extent of the nursing shortage in Oklahoma and to make recommendations to address the problem; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force was composed of representatives from a variety of backgrounds, including nursing, hospital administration, education, public health and the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, members of the Task Force examined data indicating that Oklahoma ranks 46th in the country in terms of the number of registered nurses per 100,000 population; and

WHEREAS, experts predict that by 2010, the shortage of nurses will triple; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force concluded that there are a number of initiatives under way in Oklahoma that are directed at decreasing the health care workforce shortage, but there is a need to coordinate these efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force recommended that a Center for Health Care Workforce Resources be established to coordinate statewide health care workforce efforts; and

WHEREAS, the focus of the Center would be to address the shortage of nurses as well as the development of other health care professions that are in short supply.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the need to address the nursing shortage as well as the shortage of other health care professionals.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature wishes to express its support to all interested groups for the establishment of a Center for Health Care Workforce Resources.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Nurses Association, the Oklahoma Hospital Association, the Physician Manpower Training Commission, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, the Oklahoma Association of Licensed Practical Nurses, the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, and the State Board of Health.

49-2-8709

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